

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

GROUP 1700

MAY 19 2003

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In re application of : Confirmation No. 5431  
Junichiro YOSHIOKA et al. : Docket No. 2001\_0322A  
Serial No. 09/809,295 : Group Art Unit 1753  
Filed March 16, 2001 : Examiner Brian L. Mutschler

PLATING APPARATUS AND METHOD

ELECTION OF INVENTION

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

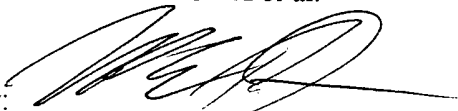
Sir:

In response to the Office Action of April 16, 2003, Applicants in the above-reference application hereby elect the invention of Group I corresponding to claims 1-4.

Favorable action of the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Junichiro YOSHIOKA et al.

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May 16, 2003